Paul Introduces Legislation to Restrict Student Visas

Washington, DC- Congressman Ron Paul recently introduced legislation that will make it more difficult for terrorists and potential terrorists to enter the United States using student visas. Paul's bill will require the State department to apply close scrutiny to student and diversity visa applications submitted by individuals from Saudi Arabia, Iraq, Libya, Sudan, and other terror-sponsoring nations.

HR 488, the "Terror Immigration Elimination Act of 2003," now sits before the House Judiciary committee.

"Most of the September 11<sup>th</sup> hijackers entered the country using student visas, which are notoriously easy to obtain," Paul stated. "Common sense dictates that we should not be handing out new visas to residents of countries that harbor terrorists. Homeland Security and State department officials need to bring the student visa program under control before we allow more of our enemies into the country. If we are serious about preventing terrorism in America, we cannot continue to simply fling open our doors to students from terror-sponsoring states."

"The focus of the war on terror should be on terrorists, not American citizens," Paul concluded. "We must take control of our immigration procedures, prevent potential terrorists from entering the country, and do a better job of tracking those individuals we do allow to enter. Student visas should not serve as an easy revolving door that allows our worst enemies to live among us."